

## **Council on Aging Board Meeting**

### **November 12, 2003**

#### **In Attendance:**

Chairman Paul Keegan, Vice-Chairman Helene Tanenholtz, Board members Al Crommett, Lillian Goodman, Helen McLaughlin, Tim Swiss and Secretary John Concordia. Director Sharon Yager and Dolores Lake, representing the Shrewsbury Comm. Part./Children were also present.

#### **Chairman's Comments:**

The Chairman opened the meeting at 10 am. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved with the addition that the record of meetings televised (Sept. and Oct.) be included. The 3<sup>rd</sup> van is still "on the way"---some discussion was held on details of its operation with the conclusion reached that we should give the situation 3-4 months to resolve itself when actual operations take place. (See comments below under new business)

#### **Directors Comments:**

The "Flu-shot" day was a busy one with over 600 seniors taking advantage of the program, which was well covered by the local press.

#### **Liaison Reports:**

CMAA:----No report

Friends of the SCC, Inc.---Helene reported some improvement in understanding of Friends role in supporting the newsletter (see later comments below). The COA has requested that the Friends provide us with copies of their meeting minutes in the future.

Shrews. Comm. Part./Children:---Dolores reported that a meeting was held on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> at which the Shrewsbury Community Services described its training activity with approximately 30 needy children. The services of YOU, Inc. were utilized. The reading program is under way at several schools—Dolores was asked to give us more information on which of the schools is involved.

Elder Services of Worc./Outreach:---Jacquie provided a comprehensive report on the "Veteran's Day Event" held on November 2. About 150 people attended —The Colonial Brass Band was a big hit—The Friends provided funding of \$282.00. The next ESW, Inc. meeting is in Worcester on November 18. Jacquie attended a SMOC training session with a new volunteer, Jaimal Tuteja—they have started processing fuel applications for the coming winter. 20 people attended a "Reverse Mortgage" educational program on October 24th.

#### **Old Business:**

FY '05 Budget Planning—The copier is not working as expected. Will cost COA about \$600.00 vs. budgeted amount of \$300.00. We should plan on a "level funded" basis for the next year.

Nutrition Issues:---With our new site manager, the daily working relationship with COA staff has improved although the issue of food quality remains and state-wide concern with the nutrition programs. Suggests we are not alone. A new contract cycle will be starting early next year; the board will request that our CMAA representative provide information on the proceedings there.

Computer Projects:---MIS situation continues as a town-wide problem so the COA is coping as well as possible with the assistance of qualified volunteer help.

Health Fair:--A final report should be ready for our December meeting.

Newsletter Support Committee:--This Ad-Hoc group held its initial meeting on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>. Funding and advertiser questions dominated the agenda.

**New Business:**

Sharon reported that she had met with the COA director at Millbury to discuss their van operations/Friends funding there in anticipation of our 3<sup>rd</sup> van coming along. Incidentally, Millbury has 5 vans available to their COA. We plan to use the 3<sup>rd</sup> van on a 24-hour/week basis to start and work out the funding details along the way with the housing authority and the Friends.

A lengthy discussion was held with regard to the provision of offering nail care service at the Center. The board raised questions about the town's liability, the frequency of the service, the use & storage of equipment etc. The board recommended that Sharon fix the day and time for the service and that a "disclaimer" statement be developed for participants.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

Respectively submitted,  
*John Concordia*, Secretary